

artificial lake near Branchville, New Jersey. These, together with the three that stayed several weeks during late summer and early autumn of 1916 in the vicinity of Van Cortlandt Park, New York City (Chubb, S. H., Auk, Oct., 1916, p. 433), one of which returned in the summer of 1917 to the same place (Rogers, Charles H., Bird-Lore, Sept.-Oct., 1917, p. 276), the one reported from Setauket, L. I., in the summer of 1916 (Nichols, Murphy, and Griseom, Auk, Oct., 1917, p. 440), and other recent records, would seem to indicate that the laws for the protection of this beautiful bird are bearing fruit.—G. CLYDE FISHER, *American Museum of Natural History, New York City.*

Brooding Habit of the American Coot.—Two nests of the American Coot (*Fulica americana*) were hatched in the North American waterfowl lake in the National Zoological Park during the summer of 1918, and one curious habit of the bird, which I do not recall having seen noted, attracted my attention. Until the young birds are about twenty days old, almost as large as small quails, and have lost the reddish markings on the head, they return to the nest each evening and are brooded by a parent bird, presumably the female. I had never supposed before that these birds returned to the nest once the young had left it, almost immediately after they were hatched. In one case the nest was placed on the dry ground, under the overhanging branches of a low tree, about two feet from the bank, and in an excellent position for observation from the shore. I repeatedly saw the Coots between sundown and dark, one parent on the nest, the young under her wings or nestling about her after the manner of the domestic fowl. The other parent at these times patrolled the nearby shore and savagely attacked any ducks that wandered into the immediate vicinity.—N. HOLLISTER, *Washington, D. C.*

Stilt Sandpiper (*Micropalama himantopus*) in Wyoming.—The occurrence of the Stilt Sandpiper (*Micropalama himantopus*) in Wyoming seems to be rare enough to render it advisable to place on record the existence of four specimens even if the records are decidedly old. In recently working over the series of this species contained in the collection of the United States National Museum, I found that four specimens, all males, were secured at Fort Laramie, Laramie County, Wyoming, May 15, 1875, by Dr. J. S. Newberry. Of these, Number 69918 was sent to Mr. E. E. T. Seton. The existence of these birds has evidently been unknown to Wyoming ornithologists as neither Knight (*Birds of Wyoming*, 1902, Bull. 55, Univ. of Wyoming, p. 47) nor Grave and Walker (*Birds of Wyoming*, 1913, Univ. of Wyoming, p. 35) make any reference to them.—B. H. SWALES, *U. S. National Museum, Washington, D. C.*

Notes on Migratory *Anatinæ* and *Limicolæ* from Western New York.—Realizing that most ornithologists are interested in obtaining